

Mark This Date



August 8

MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC
Selecting Your Legal Structure Seminar
Mt. Clemens - Macomb County Administration Building
586.469.5118

August 16

MACOMB COUNTY DEPT. OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GIS Users Meeting
Mt. Clemens - Macomb County Administration Building
586.469.5285

August 24

MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION
Funding Township Programs and Services
Frankenmuth - Bavarian Inn
517.321.6467

August 29

MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC
Business Basics Seminar
Mt. Clemens - Macomb County Administration Building
586.469.5118

August 31

MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION
Funding Township Programs and Services
Frankenmuth - Bavarian Inn
517.321.6467

September 12

MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC
How to Report Small Business Income and Expenses
Mt. Clemens - Macomb County Administration Building
586.469.5118

September 18

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING
Filling the Gap: Local Governments Important Role in Environmental Protection
Lansing: Lansing Community College
734.913.2000

September 27-29

MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
Annual Conference
Marquette - Northern Michigan University
800.653.24583

October 3

MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC
Employees & Taxes: What You Need to Know
Mt. Clemens - Macomb County Administration Building
586.469.5118

October 11

MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC/SBA
Team SBA
Mt. Clemens - Macomb County Administration Building
586.469.5118

October 11-24

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING
Annual Conference
Detroit - Marriott
734.913.2000

October 19

MACOMB COUNTY DEPT. OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Planners' Exchange
Topic and Location: TBD
586.469.5285

October 24

MACOMB COUNTY SBTDC
Tax Information for Sole Proprietors
Mt. Clemens - Macomb County Administration Building
586.469.5118



Staff News



Summer intern, John Paul Rea comes from the Grand Valley State University's Masters of Public Administration Program. He is specializing in City and Regional Policy and Planning.

Pamela Valentik, a senior planner with the Economic Development Program Service area, was recently nominated for the 2006 ATHENA Award. This internationally recognized award honors an individual who has supported and developed women leaders and has inspired women to achieve their full potential. The ATHENA Award is presented by the Macomb Foundation.

Macomb to Hire Senior Economic Development Specialists

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners has given approval for the Department of Planning and Economic Development to hire two Senior Economic Development Specialists. The individuals will be responsible for implementing the county's economic development attraction and marketing initiatives. For further information, please call 586.469.5285.



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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Department Receives National Recognition for Innovative Programs

August 2006

Each year, the National Association of Counties (NACo) honors outstanding county programs that meet a constituent need in a unique and cost effective manner for their "Achievement Awards" program. This year marks the 25th consecutive year that Macomb County has received more NACo Awards than any other county in Michigan.

Of the 13 awards bestowed to the county in 2006, four can be attributed to the efforts of the Department of Planning & Economic Development:

"County Develops New Funding Source Through Public Outreach" – Department staff secured the assistance of the local media to promote opportunities for citizens to make charitable gifts to the county in support of the Macomb Orchard Trail. As a result, private contributions have helped to add new (and wonderful) amenities to the path.

"Intergovernmental Cooperation Expedites Farmland Preservation" – an award shared with Michigan State University Extension-Macomb for assistance provided to the Macomb Agricultural Preservation Development Rights Committee. Members of MAPDRC include five of Macomb's most rural communities (Armada, Lenox, Ray and Richmond township and the City of Richmond). Their mission is to protect and preserve agriculture as an important economic activity in the county. Working with staff, MAPDRC was able to secure a grant from Michigan Department of Agriculture

to purchase the development rights of land actively used for agriculture.

"Economic Development Enhanced by Effective Networking" – each month, a group of economic development specialists representing federal, state and county government, educational institutions and utility corporations meet to discuss the needs of specific businesses in Macomb County. Using a team problem-solving approach, individual business challenges and opportunities are discussed to develop an efficient and comprehensive approach for achieving success. This joint venture has helped to create and retain jobs in the community by attracting new business and helping existing operations to increase their capacity.

"Banding Together for Katrina Relief" – Department staff worked with the Office of Public Affairs to design and produce promotional materials for a countywide fundraising campaign for hurricane survivors. As a result, Macomb County employees, residents and businesses pooled more than \$250,000 in donations to the American Red Cross.

Says Stephen Cassin, Executive Director, "Despite some necessary budget cuts this year, our people continue to demonstrate that they really care about the work they do and want to have a positive affect on the entire county." The Board of Commissioners will officially present the awards in October.

To receive a copy of this newsletter, please call 586.469.5285 and ask to be put on our mailing list.

PLEASE CALL TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES

Nancy M. White
Chair

Joan Flynn
Vice-Chair

Leonard Haggerty
Sergeant-at-Arms

Andrey Duzyj
Marvin E. Sauger
Phillip A. DiMaria
Jon M. Switalski
Susan L. Doherty
Sue Rocca
James E. McCarthy
Robert Mijac
Philis DeSaele
Ed Szczepanski
Peter J. Lund
Don Brown
Brian Brdak
Keith Rengert
William J. Revoir
Bobby L. Hill
Dana Camphous-Peterson
Paul Gielegem
Betty M. Slinde
William A. Crouchman
Peggy A. Kennard
Kathy D. Vosburg
Nicholyn A. Brandenburg

The Planning & Economic Development News is published quarterly by the Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development (an agency of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners).



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American Dream Down-Payment Initiative

The County's American Dream Down-Payment Initiative (ADDI) program is going full tilt, providing opportunities for lower-income Macomb County households to buy their first home. The program, being implemented by the Macomb County Community Services Agency (MCCSA), on behalf of the Department of Planning and Economic Development, provides a cash match, to the homebuyer, of \$3.00 ADDI monies per \$1.00 family contribution, to purchase a home in Macomb County. The maximum ADDI subsidy is \$7,500, allowing the family to generate up to \$10,000 for a down-payment. The family must also complete a rigorous program of homebuyer counseling and education.

Applicants are screened by a MCCSA case manager, and approved by an independent review committee. Once approved, the family has up to 18 months to save and complete its coursework. The case manager works closely with the family throughout the process, so that families understand the responsibilities and costs of homeownership.

So far, one family has purchased a home, and 10 additional families have been approved. There is sufficient funding to help 10 more families. Please contact Ms. Wasilowski at 586.469.7378 for more information.

Community Highlights: Lenox Township



of this land lies vacant with portions in the southeast being developed for urban uses.

Recent expansion of water and sewer service to southern Lenox Township, including the Village of New Haven, has greatly expanded development along 26 Mile Road. New Haven has experienced the bulk of the recent growth. Over the next several months, construction of two additional sewer projects will be taking place. Phase Five will run along Gratiot Avenue from 26 Mile to New Haven Road. The Lenox Local Line will continue up Gratiot to 31 Mile Road. The total cost of these two projects is expected to be around \$15 million.

The addition of a sanitary sewer line through this portion of the Township is expected to boost development in the area. The Township expects to see approximately 4,000 new housing units to be added over the next 10 years with about 400 in the next few years. SEMCOG forecasts Lenox's population to be approximately 8,550 residents by 2030.

To include your community in the highlights feature, please call 586.469.5285

Ask THE Planner

Q: What is the difference between tabling and postponing an item at a planning commission meeting?

A: Many commissioners move to table an item, when actually the correct action is to postpone the item to a certain date. An item should be tabled if it is to be acted upon again later in the meeting. Postponing an item is usually the most appropriate motion to make when the intent is to resume debate at another meeting. A motion to postpone allows limited debate on the merits of postponing. A motion to table permits no debate from the members.

“Landmark” Agreement to Limit Canadian Trash

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners approved a “landmark” agreement with Waste Management Company to gradually reduce the amount of Canadian trash entering the Pine Tree Acres landfill in Lenox Township. The agreement, the first of its kind in Michigan, will limit the amount of Canadian trash to no more than 25% of the landfill. In addition, it will guarantee space for Macomb County trash for the next 25 years. In exchange for the concessions, Pine Tree Acres will be allowed to expand the landfill by approximately 190 acres. The Lenox Township Board has passed a resolution of support.

The new host agreement will necessitate an amendment to the county's Solid Waste Plan. Such amendment will require approval from the county's Solid Waste Committee, and 2/3 of the county's 27 municipalities.

For further information, please contact the Department of Planning and Economic Development at 469.5285

Green Infrastructure Grant Leads to Valuable “Environmental Toolbox for Local Agencies”

The Department is pleased to announce the creation of a valuable new resource for environmental planning in Macomb County. The “Environmental Toolbox for Local Agencies” is comprised of an accumulation of geographic and environmental data that has been integrated into the County's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Program. Through the toolbox, the traditional “base data” sets of information are enhanced with other updated or newly created data to ultimately develop a Green Infrastructure Plan (green ways). Among the additional data are:

- 2005 Color digital aerial photography (SEMCOG)
- Soil survey for Macomb County
- Michigan Natural Features Inventory
- Potential Wetlands Inventory
- Macomb County Trailways Plan
- Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces
- Treed Lots and Tree Rows.

With the toolbox at its disposal, the department participated in a Regional Green Infrastructure Plan Update and held two meetings that were spearheaded and funded by The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan: GreenWays Initiative (Detroit, MI). In addition to Macomb County, Livingston, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties also participated. The objective of the group is to establish a usable Green Infrastructure Plan that will allow for linked green corridors, riparian buffers, and trail networks throughout the SE Michigan Region.

Local governmental entities, non-profit agencies, and the general public are encouraged to become involved in this process at the local level. Residential and commercial developers will also benefit from this program by identifying areas that will become part of this regional system and integrate conservation



Staff and regional partners review potential green ways.

and sensitive development choices where appropriate. We look forward to working with each of the local governmental agencies in exploring how the toolbox can assist in planning future developments, bolstering land coverage, and encouraging sensible developments that yield benefits lasting generations to come.

Spotlight on Business: Update

Among the largest industrial projects in Macomb County over the past year, **Cadence Innovation**, formerly know as Venture Industries, is establishing a major presence in Chesterfield Township. The now newly reorganized company, a Tier I supplier of auto interior components, has elected to consolidate most of its manufacturing activities under one roof. The new operation will occupy a 735,000 square foot building (a former Visteon facility) located on 39 acres on 23 Mile Road, west of Gratiot. After having acquired the land and building for \$8.5 million, Cadence is investing nearly \$6 million in renovations to the building, and purchasing nearly \$50 million of new machinery and equipment. With secured contracts and projected new business from OEMs, Cadence expects to create up to 800 new jobs by the end of 2008.

In Roseville, **Great Lakes Recycling** is underway with a variety of improvements that reflect their growing prominence in their industry, as well as in the community. The recent purchase and renovation of a neighboring building, which today serves as Great Lakes Recycling new headquarters, puts a fresh face on the company and is a welcome enhancement to Groesbeck Highway. Also, as a leading recycler of paper, plastic and metal materials originating from industrial, commercial and consumer waste streams, the purchase of new machinery and equipment (an investment of nearly \$2 million) will increase GLR's capabilities and improve their competitive position in the global recycling industry. This upgrade to the company's processing systems is anticipated to create up to 14 new jobs within the next two years.

RTS Cutting Tools, a precision manufacturer of carbide and high-speed-steel rotary cutting tools, is currently engaged in upgrading their production capabilities. Located in the East Pointe Industrial Park in Clinton Township, RTS is investing more than \$1.5 million in new 5-axis technology that will help enable them to increase sales to customers in the aerospace and transportation industries. Along with this investment comes the opportunity for the company to create up to three new jobs, which are expected within the next two years.

The Department of Planning & Economic Development is proud to be assisting these companies as they invest in their futures. To learn more about the department's economic development services, contact us at 586.469.5285, or visit us at our website: www.MacombBusiness.com.

